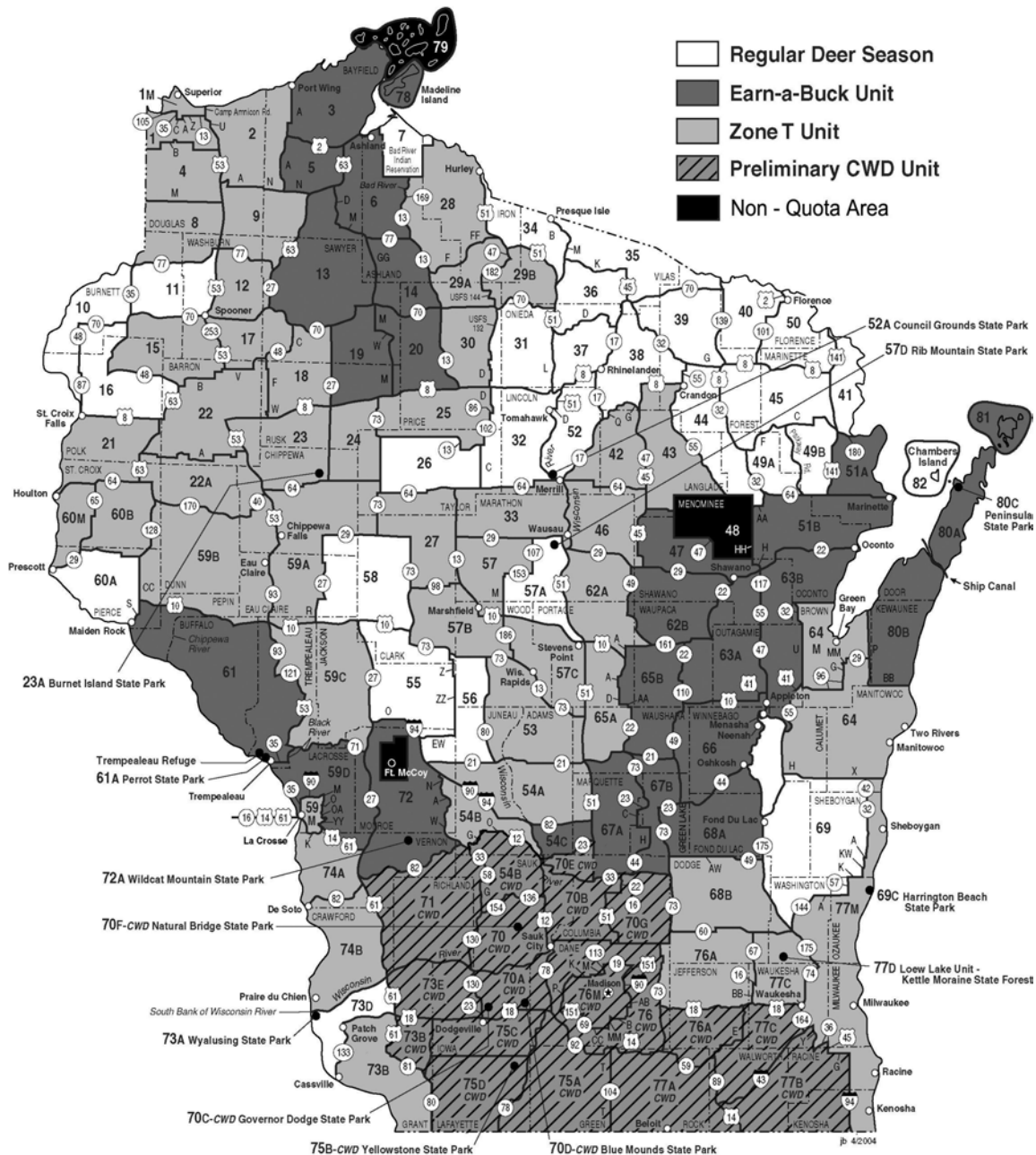


# 2004 Wisconsin Hunter's Choice Information

*Hunter's Choice Application Deadline: July 20, 2004*

## 2004 Deer Management Unit Designation



### *Applying for Hunter's Choice:*

Hunter's Choice permits will be issued in 'Regular Deer Season' deer management units through the Hunter's Choice application process. Hunter's Choice permits may only be filled in the specific unit for which they were issued. **Do not** apply for a Hunter's Choice Permit in any Zone T, Earn-a-Buck (EAB), Non-Quota, or CWD unit.

# Instructions for 2004 – Please Read Carefully

(Important: DO NOT apply for Hunter's Choice in Zone T, Earn-a-Buck, or CWD Units)  
Applications must be post marked by July 20<sup>th</sup>. Only one application allowed per person.

## Hunter's Choice Permits

Apply for Hunter's Choice in any "Regular Deer Season," deer management unit using a "2004 Hunter's Choice Deer Hunting Permit Application". Applicants (other than Conservation Patron License holders) must pay a \$3.00 application fee.

The Hunter's Choice Permit **does not** represent an extra deer – it allows the holder of an unused regular gun deer license carcass tag the opportunity to harvest one deer of any sex or age during the gun or muzzleloader season. Archery hunters may also tag an antlerless deer using their regular gun deer license carcass tag, if they have a hunter's choice permit (archery deer hunting license is also required). A Hunter's Choice Permit may **only** be used in the unit for which it was issued. A permittee may hunt in other units if desired, but would be restricted to the legal deer specified for the unit (see the *2004 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Regulations*, available in August).

## How You Will Be Notified of Permit Selection

Hunters selected to receive a Hunter's Choice Permit will receive them in the mail.

## Bonus Permits

Most Regular Deer Season deer management units, as well as Zone T and Earn-a-Buck units will have Bonus Permits, which allow the harvest of additional **antlerless deer only**. Beginning this year, Bonus Permits **will not** be offered through the mail in process. **All bonus permits will be available for purchase (\$12 for residents and \$20 for non-residents) beginning at 12 noon on Saturday, August 21.** Resident and non-resident hunters who have already purchased a gun deer or archery license will have equal opportunity to purchase these permits. Bonus permits may be purchased at any license sales location or online at: [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov). Bonus permits may be purchased at the rate of 2 per day per customer until each unit is sold out.

Bonus Antlerless Permits issued for Regular Season DMU's may only be used in the unit for which they are issued. Bonus Permits for Zone T and EAB units may be used in any Zone T or EAB unit.

In units with sufficient numbers of bonus permits available, qualified farm owners will receive one free bonus tag for each bonus tag they purchase. Free farm owner bonus permits will be issued over-the-counter at any license sales location.

## State Park Hunting

Hunting access in some state parks is determined by limited draw only. Those interested in hunting Rib Mountain (57D), Perrot (61A), Wyalusing (73A), Brunet Island (23A), Wildcat Mountain (72A), Loew Lake (77D), Peninsula (80C), Harrington Beach (69C), or Council Grounds (52A) state parks must apply through the Hunter's Choice Permit Application process by July 20 (a \$3 application required, except for conservation patron license holders). Free Zone T Antlerless Permits may be used in state park units 23A, 61A, 69C, 72A, 77D, and 80C, however, these units will **not** participate in Zone T season extensions (Oct. 28 – 31 and Dec. 9 - 12). Group applications will be considered for State Park units. Please refer to the *2004 Hunter's Choice Permit Application* for details on group applications. Special hours and area restrictions may apply within the parks; this information will be mailed to successful applicants along with their access permit.

State Parks open to deer hunting that are not separate Deer Management Units, but fall within Zone T or EAB units, will **not** participate in 4-day antlerless hunts in October or December. However, free Zone T Antlerless Permits may be used in these parks during their regular deer hunting seasons (See the *2004 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Regulations*, available in August).

## Mississippi River Block Units (59D, 61, 74A, and 74B)

Mississippi River Block (MRB) units 74A and 74B are designated as Zone T units and MRB units 59D and 61 are designated as EAB for the 2004 deer hunting seasons. Hunters will be able to use free Zone T antlerless permits in these four MRB units in 2004. Do not apply for Hunter's Choice in any MRB unit. A regular gun deer license is automatically good for a deer of either sex in any MRB unit except for units 59D and 61 where hunters must earn-a-buck authorization by first harvesting and tagging an antlerless deer. Please see the *2004 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Regulations* for EAB regulations. Note: unit 59M is designated as a metro unit and **not** a MRB unit.

## Metro Units

Metro units 1M, 59M, 60M, 64M, and 77M are designated as Zone T units in 2004. Unit 1M will only participate in the October 28 - 31 hunt while metro units 59M, 60M, 64M, and 77M will have both the October and December 4-day antlerless only hunts. Zone T permits may be used to tag antlerless deer in any of these units.

**Check local ordinances on firearm and bow use before hunting. Some municipalities within the borders of the Metro Units do not allow firearm discharge and some may not allow the discharge of bow and arrow, or crossbow.**

# 2004 Deer Hunting Season

## 2004 Deer Hunting Season Dates

**Gun:** November 20 – November 28

**Muzzleloader:** November 29 – December 8

### Additional Antlerless Hunts in Zone T/EAB Units:

- October 28 – October 31
- December 9 – December 12

*(Only Zone T and EAB units south of Hwy. 8 have the December 4-day antlerless hunt. Please see the 2004 Deer Hunting Regulations for a list of these units.)*

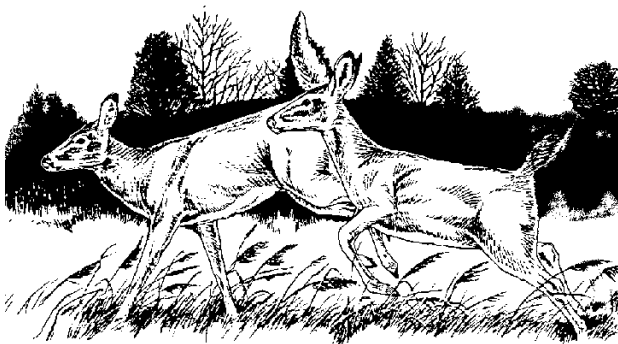
**Archery:** September 18 – November 18 and November 29 – January 3, 2005

**Youth Hunt:** October 30

**Note:** Season dates in CWD Zones differ than those listed above. See the 2004 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Regulations for season dates in the CWD Zones.

### Blaze Orange Clothing

Blaze orange clothing requirements apply to all hunters, except waterfowl hunters, during all deer firearm seasons and hunts, including the October 28 – October 31 and December 9 – December 12 herd control hunts, October 30 youth hunt, the November 20 - 28 gun deer season, and the November 29 – December 8 muzzleloader season. Deer hunters should always be aware that waterfowl hunters and other people may be present, and caution should be exercised. ***Always make sure of your target and beyond!***



### Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication is available in alternate format (large print, Braille, audio tape, etc.) upon request. Call 608-266-8204 for more information.

The following season structure and permit issuance measures are for Zone T and EAB units ONLY.

**Zone T special season structure will be held in the following deer management units in 2004:** 1, 1M, 2, 4, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 22A, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29A, 29B, 30, 33, 42, 43, 46, 53, 54A, 54B, 57, 57B, 57C, 59A, 59B, 59C, 59M, 60B, 60M, 62A, 64, 64M, 65A, 68B, 73B, 74A, 74B, 76A, 77C, and 77M

**Earn-a-Buck special season structure will be held in the following deer management units in 2004:** 3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 19, 20, 47, 51A, 51B, 54C, 59D, 61, 62B, 63A, 63B, 65B, 66, 67A, 67B, 68A, 72, 78, 80A, 80B, and 81

### Why?

These units have deer populations that are well above established population goals. By law, the Department of Natural Resources is required to manage deer population at these goals. In accordance with s. NR 10.01(3)(ez) Wis. Adm. Code, the Department has modified the deer hunting seasons and deer permit issuance procedures for these 74 deer management units to reduce the deer population nearer to the overwinter population goals established in s. NR 10.104(4)(b). The department has determined that it is unlikely the deer population for these deer management units will be reduced to within 20% of the overwinter population goal established in s. NR 10.104(4)(b) under a normal deer hunting season framework. In making this determination, the department has compared the deer harvest required to reduce the deer population to goal to the deer harvest likely to occur under the traditional deer season structure. The Zone T and Earn-a-Buck hunts provide department wildlife managers with the ability to increase the harvest of antlerless deer to achieve these goals.

### Tag Use and Availability in Zone T and EAB Deer Management Units

One free Zone T Antlerless Deer Permit will be issued with the purchase of each deer-related license, for a maximum of two free tags, if a hunter purchases both a gun deer and an archery license or a Conservation Patron's License.

Zone T antlerless permits may be used in **any Zone T or EAB unit** during any open deer season in that unit. Hunters who wish to acquire more antlerless tags for use in Zone T or EAB units may purchase Bonus Antlerless Permits at any license vendor beginning at noon on Saturday, August 21 (\$12 each for residents and \$20 each for non-residents).

Hunters in Earn-a-Buck Zone T units are required to tag an antlerless deer before they can legally tag an antlered buck. Upon registration of an antlerless deer, the registration station will issue the hunter a "Buck Authorization" sticker. This sticker does not represent an extra tag, but allows the hunter to harvest an antlered buck with their regular gun or archery license carcass tag (sticker must be attached to the hunter's regular gun or archery license carcass immediately upon harvest and validation of carcass tag.)